

## ACQUIRING A HABIT

By GERTRUDE ATHERTON  
Of The Virginians

Probably nothing could humiliate us more than to be forced to admit any superior quality in a race for which we have a profound loathing and contempt. And yet it is a fact that the national habit of thrift in Germany is one secret of its prolonged resistance to the combined might of the civilized world. It is quite true that before the war the Germans were gross eaters, but they wasted nothing. The moment the civilians were ordered to eat less and save the scraps they drew in their belts and did as they were told. It might be difficult to control the cravings of their distended stomachs but to scrimp and save involved no long apprenticeship, cost them practically no effort whatever.

The same may be said of France. While England—as wasteful a nation as our own—was issuing repeated and almost frantic warnings to her people, devising constant new methods to control their natural extravagance, and at one time threatened with starvation, the French simply went on economizing and never were in danger for a moment.

I never shall forget my first visit to Paris. It was to friends, who lived in great style, but if I happened to feel hungry during the day or when I went to bed late, I either had to go hungry or satisfy my healthy young appetite at a confiserie. There is never an extra roll in a French household. Exact rations are bought every morning for the day. If there are children in the home, who must be fed between meals, that is provided for, but nothing whatever for eccentric appetites.

I rebelled vigorously and denounced the French as a mean, stingy, economical race, my opprobrium extending to the Americans who drifted supinely into the national habit.

Easy to Follow Hoover's Rules. Little did I think in those days that the national habit of thrift and severe economy in France was one of their greatest sources of strength. The national debt of France before the war was subscribed to almost exclusively by the peasant class and lower bourgeoisie, people who periodically dug into their stockings and bought a new bond. Nothing can exceed the self-denial of those classes. It was for this reason that Le Ren-Etre du Blesse, which was formed at the request of the French government to provide delicacies for the wounded soldiers in the hospitals of the war zone, was a pri-

vate organization, the funds to be raised by subscription. The men must have the tempting and delicate foods or die, but if the government had taken over the task itself, that would have meant another tax, to be followed immediately by a popular outcry. To the average French mind delicate rhymer with luxury, and it would have been impossible to convince the millions drudging at home that wounded men needed what they never had had before, ill or well.

When I lived in Munich I had a Swiss maid in whom I had implicit (and justifiable) faith. She would come to me periodically and say, "Madame, je n'ai plus d'argent." And I would hand out several hundred marks. That was all I had to do with the housekeeping during my seven years' residence in Germany. And yet my incomparable Elsie would never give me anything to eat between meals but zwieback, which in Germany is as hard as the thrice accursed national heart.

I have found it comparatively easy to follow most of the Hoover rules, for I have always eaten meat merely as a matter of duty, and took kindly to Graham biscuit with my morning tea. Moreover, the bread and butter habit at lunch and dinner I have always thought vulgar. But to eliminate waste has been a different matter. Still I have in a measure succeeded. There is nothing in the bread box or anywhere else (except the inevitable boxes of Graham biscuit) but the daily ration; so that now when I come home in the afternoon hungry I either forget it or eat a few more Graham biscuits—which I shall never look at again after the war is over.

### Will Be Greatest Nation.

I mention this personal experience because it is no doubt that of many others. In a short time it will be the experience of everyone in the United States; for the way this nation has waded up, denied itself its customary luxuries in order to put the money in to the Liberty loan and War Savings stamps is the most significant thing in its history. And as there is something very fascinating about thrift and economy after it has been practiced for a time no doubt the habit will be a lasting one, and this nation will reach heights of wealth and strength of character that its most ardent native admirer never would have ventured to predict. More than any other single cause does a national habit, if it is a good one, knit a nation together, prevent the disintegration which comes from the softness of over-indulgence.

And for the formation of this habit of thrift, and the lucid exposition of what thrift means in the winning of the war, we must thank the War Savings stamp campaign. I doubt if any individual in this country, barring the traitors who call themselves pacifists and I. W. W.'s, has failed to buy himself at least one War Savings stamp.

will keep our bed and food and home clean. The line that will maintain the purity that we have attained through the refining by fire. We must say to the Hun in Europe, in America, in Asia, anywhere he may be found:

"Get to work within the confines of your own country! Build up and purify your land. Purge it of the filth that clogs its spirit. Wash it clean of the evil it has clung to so long. Refine it with years of sacrifice and earnest work for the right. Then after the heaven has worked and passing decades have carried away the last grain of the old devilish doctrines and beliefs, then it is possible that the nations may grant you amnesty and let you go out through the world at large once more. It is up to you. Get to work on yourself."

Letting the Hun wander at will after this war is over will be like leaving the line of fuse burning and merely cutting off the dead end after the spark has crawled inward toward the magazine.

Allowing him to have the same old freedom to come to our shores would be as foolish, and as disastrous in the end, as it would be to smother a fire with cotton loosely piled.

### No Room for Traitors.

President Wilson and his advisers have a great many matters to handle and many questions to decide. Let us not leave them to do all the thinking or all the talking on this question. The American people are concerned to such a degree in this matter that they should not delegate to any man or body of men the task of thinking for them. They should do their own thinking and when they have had time to formulate a plan that looks feasible and thoroughgoing, they should say to their servants at Washington, from the president down:

"Here! You put this through along the line we have laid down. It is no time for fooling or for doing party politics. Put up the bars and spike them fast so no one can slip them. We have a stomachful and we must have time to digest it before we swallow any more."

Then get busy with the American of foreign birth and Americanize him or throw him over the bars to the soil that bore him. We have no room in America for the man who shouts "Hurrah for America!" and follows it with a whisper of "Gott sei dank, Ich bin Deutscher."

### OUR BOYS

By MARY ELIZABETH RODHOUSE  
Of The Virginians

God make us worthy of our boys. Fearless and true as they must be. Clear-eyed to face reality. And blithe withal and glad of heart.

Help us each one to do his part. With faith serene and spirit high. As they who teach us how to die. God make us worthy of our boys.

## Standardization Cuts Fleet Cost

Ships Built Cheaper Than Was Believed Possible Before the War.

### ADDS WEALTH TO NATION

Great Saving in Cost and Maintenance of Ships by Adopting Standard Sizes and Patterns—Long Hauls Cut.

Washington.—An item which eventually will appear in tremendous figures on the credit side of the great war ledger to help offset some of the staggering figures of the debt side will be the added wealth to the nation of the huge American merchant fleet which the demands of the war have brought into existence and which, pessimists to the contrary notwithstanding, will not pass with the passing of hostilities.

The United States is turning out at this time not only many more ships than ever before in the history of the nation, but many more than any other nation ever turned out in the same space of time. And, too, they are being built cheaper than before the war. It was believed within the range of possibilities. And the great secret of this rapidity of construction and economy of cost is summed up in one word—standardization.

In times of peace the building of merchant ships in the United States was not quite a lost art, but it certainly was far from being one of the great and important industries here. The United States government was keeping hands off and there was little encouragement for private capital to go into the enterprise. But when the war came all was changed. A great fleet of merchant ships became necessary for the successful prosecution of the war, for the conveyance of troops and supplies to the countries overseas. The United States government undertook the task. Time became an important factor and then it was discovered that lack of standardization was a serious handicap and must be overcome if rapid progress and economy in cost were to be considered. Standardization was necessary and standardization was put into practice.

Benefits of Standardization. The manufacture of clothing, hats and shoes is largely standardized as to sizes and patterns. For this reason a standardized suit of clothes or a pair of shoes costs much less than so-called made to order apparel. It is because standardization permits of the use of labor-saving machinery, plus quantity of production. Other familiar examples of successful standardization are found in the dollar watch and the corresponding thing in automobiles.

America's problem, then, is to make a dollar ship, so to speak, or, if you prefer it, a songing "digger," something easily replaced in whole or in part, but at the same time a thoroughly sound proposition from the standpoint of utility and economy. This means standardization all along the line.

### TURKS CAPTURED IN PALESTINE



Here are types of the Turkish prisoners taken by the thousands in Palestine by the victorious troops of General Allenby's expedition.

## SCARE MEXICANS OUT

Laredo, Texas.—German propagandists in northern Mexico and along the border are actively engaged in instilling fright into Mexicans with a view to preventing their crossing to the American side and accepting employment as laborers on farms, railroads, etc. One canard that has been given considerable publicity by the propagandists is that the Americans are contemplating drafting all Mexican men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five into the army, while all Mexican women will also be forced into service and "taken to France, where they will be used as washerwomen for the American soldiers and the allies generally."

These kind of reports have reached the American consular service on the border and they are exerting their utmost efforts to set the Mexicans right by assuring them that none but American citizens will be subject to the selective draft, while, as for women,

line. The more nearly the fabricated shapes for hulls and all ship machinery and ship equipment conform to standard sizes or patterns, the greater will be the saving in initial cost and maintenance of ships.

It is the purpose of the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet corporation to effect this, something it has already accomplished with respect to many things. The fact that no such thing existed when emergency shipbuilding began made early progress slow. There were not only the problems of organization, but the further complications always attending large construction enterprises before materials and methods have become fully standardized.

Long Hauls Eliminated. Under standardization it is possible to let contracts on a geographical as well as cost basis, thus eliminating long distance hauls. Under the old plan it was sometimes necessary to ship boats and rafts from Vancouver, Wash., to Bristol, Pa. This meant high transportation cost.

In the early days blocks came in 200 different sizes. Blocks and fittings have been so cut in size as to increase plant facilities about 35 per cent.

## MILLION BOOKS SENT TO FRANCE

No Army in History Ever Read as Omnivorously as the Yanks.

### PREFER DETECTIVE STORIES

Unexpected Demand for Serious Reading Surprise to Librarians—Technical Books Great Aid to the Ambitious Soldier.

Washington.—More than a million books have been shipped abroad by the American Library association for the use of the American expeditionary force. The total available was 3,000,000, and this will be supplemented by a United War work campaign contribution of \$3,500,000 out of its total of \$170,500,000 for the six allied welfare organizations.

About one-half of the area covered in France by the American expeditionary force has received its first sprinkling of books. The distribution is proceeding rapidly and next July there will be established in Paris a central reference library of 10,000 volumes, available to any American soldier in France. Upon application of a but secretary any book in the Paris library will be sent anywhere in France free of charge.

At every bookshelf the men find a poster which reads: "These books are loaned on the honor system. If you fail, it fails. America is far away."

### Grandfather at 39, but Is Not Citizen

Rosedale, Kan.—August Anderson, thirty-nine, and a grandfather, has just found out he was not a citizen of the United States, following his registration for the draft. Born in Sweden, he came to this country with his parents when two years of age. Anderson has served two terms in the city council and has a son now in the army. He was given his first papers.

Manufacturers are now concentrating on production where formerly a large part of the business included the making of new dies with attending increase in cost.

In the case of costly machinery, such as boilers and engines, standardization has eliminated many intermediate sizes. Nautical instruments, plumbing fixtures, winches, windlasses—in fact, all of the thousand and one things that go to make a fully equipped ship—will be entirely standardized whenever it is possible to accomplish it. Standardization has invaded even the galley and is being applied to stewards' outfits. There will be no longer miscellaneous sets of equipment that may meet the requirements of one ship but not those of another. Linen, bedding and furniture are being standardized.



### WAR WORK

American women nurses are installed eight miles in the rear of the fighting lines "over there." Right here at home many women should learn nursing to take care of the sick or, in emergencies, the wounded. You can learn a great deal

by obtaining the "Medical Adviser," a book of 1,000 pages, bound in cloth, containing chapters on First Aid, Bandaging, Anatomy, Hygiene, Sex Problems, Mother and Babe, 200 prescriptions for acute and chronic diseases; profusely illustrated by wood cuts and colored plates. Ask your druggist or send 50c. to Publisher, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

If a woman is nervous or has dizzy spells, suffers from awful pains at regular or irregular intervals she should turn to a tonic made up of herbs, and without alcohol, which makes weak women strong and sick women well. It is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Then, for the liver and bowels nothing is so good as Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets.

Also, I'll—I had need of a medicine to aid me when in a delicate way. I saw "Favorite Prescription" advertised in the paper. I began taking it and it helped me at once. I used it for six months and it proved the best medicine for that purpose. It makes one stronger, more comfortable and better able to bear the troubles that go with that situation. I was so delighted with the good I received that I have recommended it to my friends. —Mrs. C. Tinsell, 1017 E. 4th St.

## Calf Enemies

### WHITE SCOURS BLACKLEG

Your Veterinarian can stamp them out with Cutter's Anti-Calf Scour Serum and Cutter's Germ Free Blackleg Filtrate and Aggravator, or Cutter's Blackleg Pills.

Ask him about them. If he hasn't our literature, write to us for information on these products.

The Cutter Laboratory  
Berkeley, Cal., or Chicago, Ill.  
"The Laboratory That Knows How"

## Your Best Asset A Skin Cleared By Cuticura Soap

Addressing: Send 10c. to Cuticura Soap Co., P.O. Box 100, New York, N.Y.



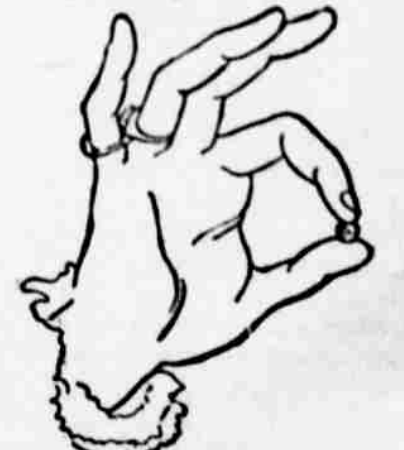
Notable Oblige. "I didn't think I'd live to see it, but I have," remarked the old-fashioned gentleman. "You've often heard me say that my wife made them?"

"Certainly." "Yesterday I heard a suffrage orator reverse the compliment in favor of freed husband."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

### LIFT OFF CORNS!

With fingers! Corns and calluses lift off. No pain!

Magic! Just drop a little Freemone on that tough corn, instantly it stops aching, then you lift the corn off with the fingers. Truly! No humping!



Try Freemone! Your druggist sells a tiny bottle for a few cents, sufficient to rid your feet of every hard corn, soft corn, or corn between the toes, and calluses, without one particle of pain, soreness or irritation. Freemone is the discovery of a noted Cincinnati genius.—Adv.

Bittied. "Any Jews from your boy in France?"

"Just got a letter this morning." "What does he say?"

"He says he's the barn guest of a charming French family."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

## ASTHMADOR

GUARANTEED TO INSTANTLY RELIEVE ASTHMA